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GROUP ART UNIT:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

APPLICANT:

Huber et al

SERIAL NO.:

09/559,886

April 26, 2000

DATE FILED: INVENTION:

"A METHOD, APPARATUS AND SYSTEM FOR

OPERATING AN AUTOMATIC COMPONENT

MOUNTING UNIT FOR MOUNTING COMPONENTS

ONTO A SUBSTRATE OF AN ELECTRICAL ASSEMBLY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

(,)

In accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that a citation and examination of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 be made during the course of the examination of the above-identified application.

REMARKS

Applicants' attorneys have received the attached International Search Report for a corresponding PCT Application, which cited European 0 582 171 and U.S. Patent Nos. 5,255,429; 5,400,497 and 5,741,114, all in Category X with regard to certain claims. Copies of these four references are attached herewith. The Search Report also cited U.S. Patent No. 5,537,204 in Category A, and it is noted that this reference has already been provided by the Information Disclosure Statement filed on or about June 30, 2000. It is submitted that the claims of the present application are patentable over the attached references.

In addition, to comply with the Duty of Disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56, applicants are mentioning copending applications filed at or about the time of filing the present application. These include U.S. Serial Nos. 09/539,561; 09/558,092; 09/558,779; 09/572,540 and 09/576,916.

It is respectfully submitted that there is a clear line of distinction between the claims of the present application and each of these applications.

Since this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before an action on the merits has been received, it is submitted that no fee is needed for the Examiner to consider these references.

Respectfully submitted,

(Reg. No. 24,149)

James D. Hobart

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DATED: January 2, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 2, 2001.

James D. Hobart

Name of Applicant's Attorney

Signature

January 2, 2001

Date